

III. 1 May 85 U S S R I N T E R N A T I O N A L A F F A I R S  
ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT

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MEETING IN STOCKHOLM ENDS, COMMUNIQUE ISSUED

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[Text] Stockholm April 30 TASS -- A meeting of foreign ministers of neutral and nonaligned countries participating in the Stockholm Conference on Confidence and Security Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe drew to a close here. The meeting discussed the role and contribution of these countries to the European confidence and security building process and the work of that major political forum in the Swedish capital.

In a communique on the results of the meeting the ministers stressed that the Stockholm conference and the measures discussed by it are of major importance in the existing international situation, promoting the lessening of the threat of military confrontation in Europe. They urged the participating states to pass on as early as possible to more substantive talks at the forum.

The document reflects the significance of the participating states reaffirming at the Stockholm conference their pledge to renounce the use or threat of force both in bilateral relations and in their relations on the international scene as a whole.

The ministers stressed the need for all the states attending the Stockholm forum to promote the process of building security and promoting cooperation in Europe and reaffirm the readiness of their countries to continue working to attain these aims. In this connection the communique emphasizes the importance of the forthcoming celebrations at a high political level in Helsinki of the 10th anniversary of the Final Act of the European Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

VELIKHOV CRITICIZES SDI CLAIMS, SPACE ARMS RACE

PM301818 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 21 Apr 85 Second Edition p 5

[Article by Academician Yevgeniy Velikhov under the rubric "Protecting the Future": "Star Wars" Illusions"]

[Text] The plans for the creation of an ABM system with space-based components is one of today's most important and critical questions. This year of 1985 is a special year, a turning point for the destiny of peace, the year of the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism.

Yet it is also the year of the 40th anniversary of the atom bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki; it is 40 years since a qualitatively new weapon appeared that was many times more powerful than any people had ever had before. Mankind was faced with the question of how to carry on living in this world, in the new nuclear age. It was in 1946 that the USSR gave its reply, as the first to propose a complete ban on nuclear weapons for all time. Unfortunately, the United States categorically rejected the proposal. The logic of the decision was simple; it reckoned that by having a monopoly on nuclear weapons and by threatening to use them it would be able to dictate to the rest of the world.

Everyone remembers the subsequent stages of the U.S.-imposed nuclear arms race and knows where it led. In particular, to a considerable reduction in the security of the United States itself. It became just as vulnerable as the other countries. Analyzing these events in the light of history, one can state that when it refused to sign an agreement on a total nuclear weapons ban in 1946, the United States made a big political mistake. Had it agreed to our proposal then, it would be more secure now. This should have served as a very important lesson for the United States.

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The state of affairs in the world today is such that if any type of weapon is allowed to be deployed in space, it can safely be said that it will be followed by a second and a third type... This will inevitably mean the start of a qualitatively new arms race spiral, a space arms race. Again, as in 1946, it is necessary to erect a barrier, this time by placing weapons in space. Again, as in 1946, the initiator of the ban is the Soviet Union. Our proposals on this matter are well known. Recall that at the 39th UN General Assembly Session the Soviet Union submitted a proposal on the utilization of space exclusively for peaceful purposes. The United States was the only country not to vote for the resolution, adopted with active USSR participation, on "Prevention of an Arms Race in Space," which was supported by 150 countries. Thus the United States once again set itself up in opposition to the vast majority of the world community, including its allies.

There is still a chance that at least one area, outer space, will be left free of weapons. Soviet, and indeed the majority of U.S., scientists have been quick to draw the international public's attention to the tremendous potential danger posed by Washington's plans.

In this connection it is clear that the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space armaments begun in Geneva are of special importance, their ultimate objective being to elaborate effective accords aimed at preventing an arms race in space, stopping it on earth, and limiting and reducing nuclear armaments. Of course, we will hope for favorable results at the talks. The arms race on earth cannot be stopped without blocking the dangerous plans to transfer it to space!

Representatives of the U.S. Administration and a number of bourgeois mass media organs are claiming and taking great pains to emphasize that the proposed "star wars" program is "defensive." But mankind cannot and must not forget the bitter lesson of history.

A group of scientists in various countries specifically carried out a detailed study of various aspects of the "star wars" program and explained them to the general public. They include our Committee of Soviet Scientists in Defense of Peace and Against the Nuclear Threat (which has published a special report on this topic and issued numerous individual publications), the Federation of U.S. Scientists, the Union of Concerned Scientists, the U.S. Congress Office of Technology Assessment, and others. Briefly summing up their conclusions, you can say that the plans for the creation of an absolutely impregnable ABM system with space-based components are an illusion not confirmed by any modern scientific or technical notions. The scientists' conclusions, based on profound knowledge of the fundamental laws of nature and a comprehensive assessment of the state of and prospects for the development of technology, rule out all variant readings and different interpretations. They are categorical and the arguments are conclusive.

In that case, then, do we need to worry about the destiny of mankind and the prospect of the implementation of the "Strategic Defense Initiative" plan? Unfortunately, concern is essential. The plan is an illusion, but it is an exceedingly dangerous illusion. It is dangerous precisely because the White House is claiming that the creation of space ABM systems is the road to nuclear disarmament and the lessening of the danger of nuclear war. In fact, however, the "Strategic Defense Initiative" considerably increases the danger of a nuclear conflict. This is because even the partial implementation of the "star wars" program would prompt the creation of its much more dangerous component, the first-strike weapon. We are talking in particular about the creation and deployment of an effective antisatellite weapon that would upset the existing strategic balance and act as a fillip to the further development of the arms race.

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The second dangerous aspect is that any move in the direction of the creation of a global ABM system is a most gross violation of the 1972 Treaty on the Limitation of ABM Systems, the cornerstone of subsequent arms limitation accords.

Third, the continuation of research and development in the "Strategic Defense Initiative" sphere effectively opens a "Pandora's box" and gives the green light to the development of a variety of weapons systems in space.

So who supports the exceedingly dangerous "star wars" plans? Above all the militarists, in their blind hatred of the Soviet Union, and the powerful military-industrial complex in the leading capitalist countries. This is understandable, since they can see the real, and very tempting, prospect of massive profits. The first \$26 billion, for projected "scientific research work," is just a small part of these enormous sums, but, at the same time, it is the first step, setting in motion the massive flywheel of a new arms race spiral. That is why it is so important now, and I mean right now, to ensure:

the nonplacement of weapons in space;

the preservation of the principles and provisions of the 1972 ABM Treaty;

the prohibition of "research," testing, and development within the framework of the "Strategic Defense Initiative."

Even if we assume that it will be possible to solve certain tricky (from the scientific and technical viewpoint) "defense" problems, the ABM system will turn out to be highly vulnerable to various countermeasures. The point is that there are always simpler and cheaper methods of overcoming the most sophisticated "defense systems." The creation of a space ABM system would quick lead to the development of offensive means to overcome it. According to U.S. press data, the "accompanying" program, called a "countermeasures program," is already being devised in the United States.

Even if in 10 years' time, as a result of "scientific research" in the space ABM sphere, some practical results have been achieved (and we cannot believe that), by then sufficient scientific and technical potential will have been accumulated in the sphere of development of so-called defensive systems and the creation of new offensive facilities. Let us emphasize once again the main thesis. The space-based ABM system is an illusion, of course, but even the initial stages of development pose an enormous danger...

In the first place, the development of individual components of the space ABM system is exceedingly difficult to verify and monitor. Second, in a critical situation it would be difficult to depend on these components, for which absolute reliability would be a very important prerequisite. Finally, the individual components of the space ABM system are extremely vulnerable since they have parts that can easily be destroyed, thus crippling the whole system.

Does carrying out "scientific research" within the framework of the "star wars" program violate the 1972 treaty? Actually, the treaty says nothing directly about prohibiting scientific research, but it does envisage "prohibition of creation and tests." The United States is already carrying out tests, for example of X-ray lasers, at the Livermore laboratory in California. This has been reported in open U.S. publications. Thus, a provision of the 1972 ABM Treaty is already being violated. A U.S. Defense Department directive specifies for the 5-year period that the weapon components will be brought to the point where they ensure that the system is ready to be deployed. The flywheel of the massive U.S. military-industrial complex is beginning to spin, and it will be much more difficult to stop it later than it is now.

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In "technical articles" appearing in the U.S. press we can read highly detailed and carefully devised "scenarios" for the deployment and use of space ABM systems. Generally speaking, it can be said that the United States has taken a line toward undermining the 1972 ABM Treaty of unlimited duration.

Effective antisatellite weapon systems are being developed within the ABM context, and this is a real threat to the existence of vitally important communications, verification, and monitoring satellites.

According to the U.S. Administration leaders' plans, the extensive space ABM system will perform "policing functions," enabling the United States to control the whole world. We recall that the United States was harboring similar illusions in 1946. We also know what the result was....

So, an analysis of the plans for the implementation of the "Strategic Defense Initiative" once again leads to the conclusion that the only sensible and logical path is the one proposed by the Soviet Union, that is, the radical reduction and gradual destruction of nuclear and other armaments on the basis of the principle of equality and identical security. Only then can mankind actually be rid of the threat of nuclear destruction.

#### U.S. DATA ON USSR ARMS ARSENALS ATTACKED

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p 6

[G. Kuznetsov "Polemical Notes": "On a Shaky Foundation of Lies"]

[Text] As is known, spring is the beautiful season of the reawakening of nature, but every year at this time, at the same time as the blossoming of the pink magnolia decorating many of the city's streets and the Japanese cherry trees bordering the pool in front of the Jefferson Memorial, the U.S. capital is affected by an attack of an unusual fever. This has nothing to do with hayfever, however. The virus which causes it belongs to the military-political category, and the most striking symptom of the disease is severe delirium among the highest officials of the U.S. Administration about the "growing Soviet threat" and the "Russians' military superiority," due of course to the "sharp buildup by the Soviets" of their military might and, as a result, the "laggardness" of the United States. This virus always spreads in Washington's corridors of power when Congress starts to discuss the draft military budget, which is growing year by year and has now reached \$313.7 billion in the form of direct appropriations to the Pentagon alone.

In an interview for THE WASHINGTON POST on various foreign policy problems, President Reagan paid much attention to military questions. It is striking, however, that literally all his remarks do not, to put it mildly, correspond with the facts; more exactly, they deliberately distort the realities. In the blatant desire to secure from Congress the allocation of all the billions requested to prepare for war, he resorted to a "trump" card, albeit blatantly marked, by asserting that statements that parity exists in the military sphere between the United States and the USSR are the "most ludicrous utterances" he has ever heard. "The Soviet Union is really superior to us numerically in any type of weapon you care to name," the President alleged.

Of course, it is difficult to suppose that a head of state who is the recipient of the most extensive information is so scandalously misinformed. So it is impossible not to ask the question: Why does President Reagan disregard a report by the U.S. Armed Forces' Joint Chiefs of Staff, which, as they say, vigilantly guards the Pentagon's interests day and night?